

This neck ornament comes from Nagaland, which is in northeast India, close to the border with Burma. There are many different groups of people living in Nagaland. The designs and patterns found on the ornaments they wear can tell us which group they belong to. The designs also tell us about the person who wore them. Was he a warrior? Was he strong and powerful? Was he old or young?

Ornaments are very important to Naga people. In fact people wear some ornaments all the time, and they are only removed once the person has died. The person's family places the ornaments on their gravestone and leaves them there for five or six days out of respect. Other ornaments are only worn at particular ceremonies.

This Naga ornament is unusual because it is made out of recycled material and paper. Usually Naga ornaments are made out of natural materials such as feathers, teeth, horns, shells, tusks or wood.

Although this ornament looks bright and new it was actually made almost 100 years ago!



how to make

you will need

tracing paper card scissors glue hole punch coloured paper string scrap materials (tissue paper, fabric, beads)



Photocopy or trace the Naga ornament template on to card. Cut out the template.

Trace the template on to coloured paper, fabric or any other material you like.

Cut up the shapes to make zigzags, wavy lines, triangles and dots.





Stick these shapes on to the template, building up layers to create a pattern.

Punch a hole at either end of the ornament.

Tie a piece of string through the holes to turn it into a necklace (you could add beads to the string for extra decoration).

Why not try making other items of jewellery from recyled materials?

